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causes of poverty and its multitude of scourges, and to rehabilitate those who have fallen by the way in the unequal struggle of life.

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*Town Planning for Small Communities.* By Walpole Town Planning Committee, Charles S. Bird, Jr., Chairman. (New York: D. Appleton and Company. 1917. Pp. xvii, 492.)

As the title suggests, a very interesting experiment is attempted in this book which appears as a volume in the National Municipal League Series. City planning for the large community has been the subject of several volumes. The towns, as more numerous than the cities and having many distinct problems of their own, were clearly entitled to separate discussion. Mr. Bird, in undertaking to provide this, has made use of little Walpole, Massachusetts, as a clinical case.

The appropriateness, interest and novelty of his experiment justify the book in spite of some deficiencies in execution. These include a lack of proportion—the first part of the book devoting, as one example, nearly a hundred pages to housing against twelve to public health; the choice of illustrations—nearly always local and sometimes even personal; and the all pervading discussion of Walpole. These, it must be confessed, are faults natural to that town viewpoint which is the first requisite for a book of this kind.

The volume is divided into three parts. The first is ostensibly a general discussion of the subject. The second is frankly confined to the concrete case offered by Walpole and John Nolen's plans for it. The third is a series of appendices, of which nine out of twelve are devoted to Walpole statistics—what may be called the patient's clinical chart. Finally, there is a good index.

"In community building," says Mr. Bird in his foreword, "knowledge of conditions brings interest; interest leads to action; and organization makes that action effective." This is the admirable keynote of his book. It explains his supplementing of physical plans by valuable chapters on town government and community organization, and indicates the usefulness of the volume.

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